

City of Auburn
City Council Meeting - Work Session
Thursday January 24, 2013 6:00PM
Minutes
&
Public Hearing
2013 Community Development Block Grant Action Plan

The **Work Session** meeting of the Auburn City Council was called to order at 6:00 PM in City Council Chambers, 24 South St. Auburn NY by Mayor Michael Quill.

Roll Call The City Clerk called the roll. Councilors Graney, Camardo, Smith, Ruzicka, Mayor Quill - **PRESENT**.

City Staff Present:

CITY STAFF PRESENT

City Manager	Douglas Selby
Corporation Counsel	Andy Fusco
City Clerk	Debby McCormick
Dir. Municipal Utilities	Vicky Murphy
Dir. Planning & Ec. Dev.	Jenny Haines
Planning & Community Dev. Manager	Steve Selvek
Comptroller	Lauren Poelhman

Mayor Quill led the **Pledge of Allegiance** and asked for a **Moment of Silence**.

Mayor Quill opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone that wished to be heard on the CDBG Action Plan.

Tom Falicchio, Executive Director Homesite Development Corp. spoke on behalf of his agency. He encouraged support for the plan and explained the difference it has made to the services that Homesite can offer the community.

Public to be Heard - None

Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 3, 2012 - Approved

Presentations and Proclamations - None

City Manager's Report -

The City Manager reported on the following:

Governor Cuomo announced his proposed budget today -Mr. Selby pointed out several financial points that would benefit the city:

- Aid to cities was maintained at last year's amount which is about 7% of the general fund budget.
- A city's financial situation will be considered when or if arbitration comes up. Cities that are deemed distressed will benefit.
- There will be an opportunity to amortize pension payments to the state which will allow for easier planning.

Public Announcements - The City Clerk read.

Presentations of Petitions and Communications - The Clerk read.

SEQR Resolutions - None

Ordinances - None

Resolutions - None

Local Laws - None

Tabled Legislation - None

Local Law - None

Mayor Quill asked if there were any other people wishing to speak on the CDBG Plan, hearing none Mayor Quill closed the hearing at 6:35PM.

Other Business

Discussion of water rate structure - Vicky Murphy, Director of Municipal Utilities

Ms. Murphy presented Council with 5 rate reduction scenarios for the top 5 water users and the impact each scenario would have on revenue. In addition she provided the resulting impact on remaining users including towns. Council discussed.

Taskforce Efficiency Report - City Manager Doug Selby

Mr. Selby distributed a summary of the staff taskforce results for ideas on cost reductions, improved efficiency, and revenue enhancement. He briefly reviewed the content.

Performance Measurement

Mr. Selby proposed using snow removal as a pilot for performance measurement he stated for several reasons. It is already being measured; salt is being measured and compared to inches of snow, benchmarks are available, annual expense can be a variable and a challenge.

The second proposal was the landfill which is an enterprise fund, has outside customers, a master plan is being developed, benchmarks exist, it is the closest to a business model of any city service, and regulatory reporting offers data. These can be accomplished with existing staff. Mr. Selby estimate several months for completion.

Council Priorities - Mr. Selby - invited Council to discuss their priorities; he took notes as they discussed all of the many issues that could be called priorities.

Council adjourned to executive session at &7:39PM to discuss personnel matter and returned at 7:50PM

Adjournment

Council adjourned at 7:51PM